

Transit Ridership Up↑



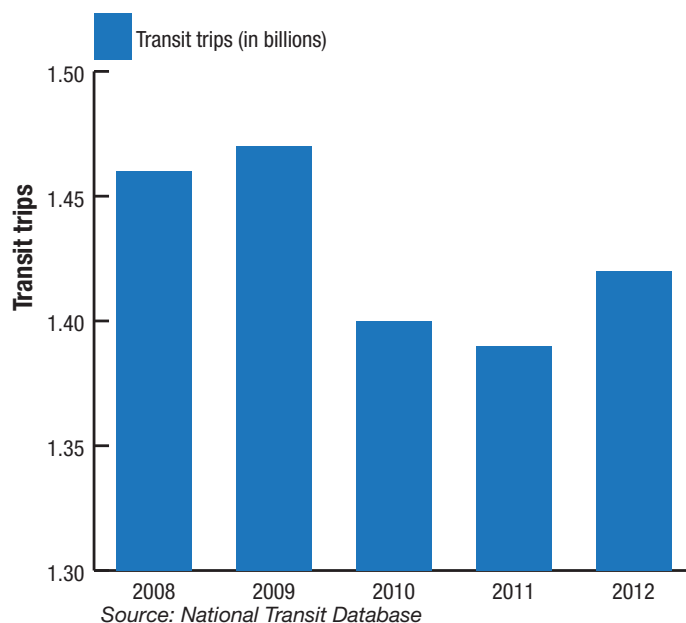
How do you get to your destination?

Many Californians drive, but more people are seeking travel options like walking, bicycling, and taking public transportation. Public transportation is experiencing a boom. Transit trips taken in California in 2012 increased by more than 32 million from 1.39 billion in 2011. In 2013, the American Public Transit Association reported transit ridership in the United States was the highest it had been in 57 years. That same year, according to APTA, some of the public transit agencies reporting record ridership systemwide or on specific lines were located in Los Angeles, Oakland, Riverside, and San Carlos. Even though transit ridership is up, California continues to have some of the nation's most congested highways. Can you imagine the transportation system without public transit? Single-occupant vehicle trips and congestion would be even worse. Public transportation helps reduce congestion and improve traffic flow, which helps the environment by reducing vehicle emissions. Equally important is that transit offers choices for travel.

Ridership is back on the rise, with 1.42 million transit passenger trips taken in California in 2012.

The Great Recession and fluctuating gas prices have likely contributed to the ebbs and flows of California's transit ridership, with ridership spiking during the peak of the recession, then dropping and climbing back up as California's gas prices rise.

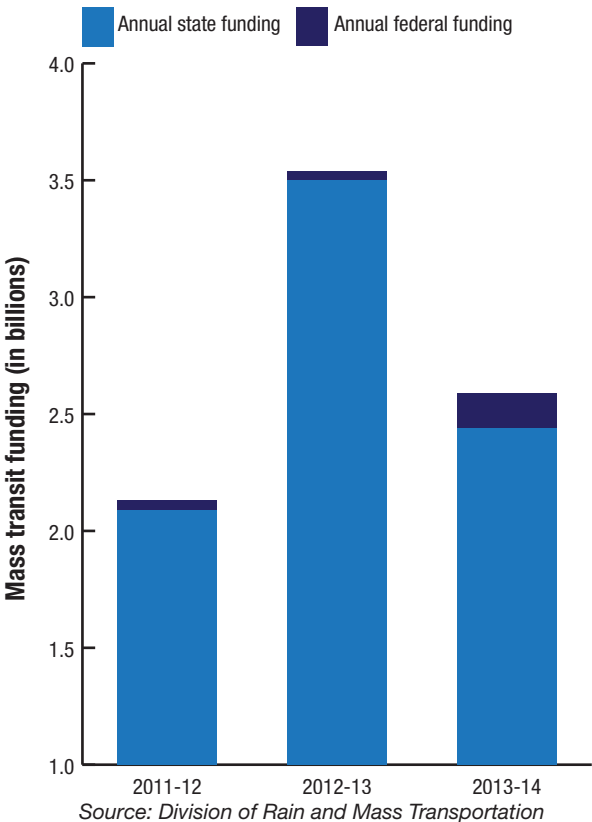
Transit Trips in California (2008–2012)



Caltrans' Role in Transit Funding

An increase in transit ridership equals a proportionate need to fund service expansion and operations. Much like money used for highways, government funds help plan, design, build, operate, and maintain the transit facilities, vehicles, and equipment that are necessary for an integrated, 21st-century, multimodal transportation system. That means funding subsidies are needed for transit, and that's one area where Caltrans has consistently delivered. Every year, we help ease the delivery of funding that our small urban and rural partners use for transit. Our part in public transportation is critical to local transit services that rely on these subsidies. Our federal partner, the Federal Transit Administration, also works directly with large urban areas to deliver even more.

Public Transit Funding (federal and state sources)



At Caltrans, our Division of Rail and Mass Transportation is responsible for managing state and federal public transportation funding programs that help deliver capital improvements and operating assistance to public transit agencies. Transit services, which are available in all of California's 58 counties and most of its 482 municipalities, include fixed transit routes, rural and intercity transit, commuter and urban



rail, waterborne ferries, and accessible services for the elderly and disabled. We also provide technical assistance to partner agencies, and we help develop plans to support transit, which fosters continuous improvements to California's overall transportation system. The division has two main transit program offices: the State Transit Programs office and the Federal Transit Programs office. Between these two offices, the total projected funds annually distributed to local agencies for years 2013 through 2017 range between \$2.14 billion and \$2.82 billion.

At Caltrans, our mission is to "provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system." That's why we are developing strategies to integrate *smart mobility* principles, concepts, and performance measures that respond to state mandates aimed at improving California's social equity, economy, and environment. Success will hinge on our ability to work strategically with hundreds of local transportation agencies. We will continue to make sure Californians can get to their destinations—no matter how they choose or are able to travel.

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